

Councillor David A Bithell / Y Cynghorydd David A Bithell

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The Petitions Committee
Welsh Government

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DAB
20 August 2025
Councillor David A Bithell
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Dear Chair and Members of the Petitions Committee

We are writing to you as Local Members in relation to the ongoing concerns raised by residents living near Hafod Quarry. The issue of odour from the site has been a persistent source of complaints and distress within our communities, and we wish to set out the current position from a local perspective.

Residents have long reported unacceptable odour levels, which have a direct impact on quality of life and public confidence in how the site is regulated. In December 2023, the site operator was issued with an Enforcement Notice for permit breaches which are recorded on the public register. Following the submission of a topic request on this matter in October 2024, Hafod Quarry was considered by the Council's Scrutiny Committee. Subsequently, in February 2025, a motion was submitted and passed at Full Council (copy attached) which called for stronger action, including:

- Improved and more transparent links to the established Liaison Committee.
- The creation of a new stakeholder group to strengthen accountability and ensure residents' voices are heard.
- Installing monitoring equipment and to carry out a health assessment.

Since then we have seen some progress. Complaints have reduced during 2025, with the operator working more proactively alongside key stakeholders. New monitoring equipment has also been installed, which has the potential to reassure the public that issues are being properly measured and addressed.

However, there is still a great deal of work to do. Better communication with residents is essential if we are to rebuild trust and demonstrate that action is being taken when problems arise. Residents need confidence that the systems in place and public bodies are effective and that their concerns are treated seriously.

As Local Members we remain fully committed to supporting measures which will reduce odour, provide public health assurance, minimise complaints, and ensure accountability. While there are signs of improvement, the situation remains fragile and ongoing support and oversight are essential.

We would, therefore, urge the Petitions Committee to note the progress made, but also to continue pressing for further action to ensure residents feel properly protected and engaged in the progress about Hafod Quarry.

Yours sincerely



Councillor David A Bithell
Local Member for
Johnstown and Pant Ward



Councillor Steve Joe Jones
Local Member for
Johnstown and Pant Ward



Councillor Dana Davies
Local Member for
Ruabon Ward